

Message Text

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70

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 ACDA-07 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-06

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAL-01 FEA-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /158 W

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R 081719Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1686

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL BREMEN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, GW, EEC

SUBJ: US/EC CONSULTATIONS ON GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL
FISHERY AGREEMENT (GIFA)

REF: STATE 217321

1. AGMIN OFFICIAL, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM AN EC
FISHERIES MEETING, CONFIRMED THAT THE COMMISSION
SHOULD HAVE A NEGOTIATING MANDATE SOON AFTER THE
OCTOBER 21 EC COUNCIL MEETING. HE FURTHER STATED,
HOWEVER, THAT THE DRAFT GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL
FISHERIES AGREEMENT WAS THE SUBJECT OF MUCH DISCUSSION
IN BRUSSELS. AGMIN OFFICIAL BELIEVES THAT, BY SIGNING
A GIFA, THE EC RECOGNIZES US MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
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BUT OBTAINS NOTHING IN RETURN. THE NEGOTIATING

MANDATE, THEREFORE, WILL PROBABLY REQUIRE THE COMMISSION TO TRY TO OBTAIN "RECOGNITION" FROM US NEGOTIATORS OF THE "GOOD RECORD" OF EC FISHERMEN IN US FISHERIES. THIS "RECOGNITION" WOULD PROVIDE EC FISHERMEN SOME ASSURANCE OF FAVORABLE TREATMENT VIS-A-VIS OTHER FOREIGN FISHERMEN IN THE ALLOCATION OF SURPLUS US FISH, GIVEN THE CRITERIA CONTAINED IN THE US FISHERY MANAGEMENT ACT. THE COMMISSION WOULD FURTHER ARGUE THAT THE TOTAL CATCH ALLOCATION NEEDED TO SATISFY THE EC IS NOT LARGE COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES WITH MORE SPOTTY COOPERATION RECORDS.

2. EMBOFF OF COURSE COULD NOT PREDICT WHAT THE US REACTION TO SUCH A TACT WOULD BE. EVEN THOUGH THE FRG CATCH IN US WATERS IS NOT HIGH, THE GERMAN PROBLEM IS TRYING TO SCRAPE TOGETHER SUFFICIENT CATCH FROM A PROGRESSIVELY TIGHTENING WORLD FISHING SITUATION. AGMIN OFFICIAL EXPECTED THAT THE FRG CATCH WOULD SINK FROM AN AVERAGE PRE-1975 LEVEL OF 300,000 TONS TO ONLY A 200 THOUSAND TON CATCH IN 1977. HE ALSO STATED THAT POLITICAL SENSITIVITY TO THE FISHING ISSUE IS HEIGHTENED BY THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN AND THE FACT THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND FINANCE MINISTER HANS APEL COME FROM THE COASTAL CITY OF HAMBURG. HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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